

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (c). Complaints had been received from time to time against the irregularities committed by the Oil Selection Boards including Oil Selection Board for Maharashtra, Goa, Daman and Diu. Accordingly, Government issued instructions to the oil companies in October, 1996, to reject the selections made by the Oil Selection Boards in violation of Government guidelines.

(d) Nine (9) retail outlet dealerships and 21 LPG distributorships were being operating on ad hoc basis in Maharashtra. Oil companies take action to appoint regular distributorship against such ad hoc dealerships/distributorships except in cases where the matters are subjudice etc.

(e) and (f). Existing selection procedure is under review of the Government. Oil companywise details of the retail outlets and LPG distributorships proposed in the draft Marketing Plan 1996-97 in respect of Maharashtra are indicated below :

Oil Company	RO	LPG
IOC	19	16
HPC	4	9
BPC	5	8
IBP	2	0

[Translation]

Direct Supply to Kendriya Bhandar

1723. SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received suggestions or requests regarding discontinuance of direct supply system to the branch stores of Kendriya Bhandar from the supplies to ensure the quality of items supplied to the Bhandar;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken or proposed to be taken so far by the Government thereon;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government have received some complaints regarding re-regularities in direct supply of items to the branch stores (Kendriya Bhandar) by the suppliers; and

(e) if so, the action taken by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) to (e). While suggestions have been received for discontinuance of direct supply system to the branch stores of the Kendriya Bhandar by

the suppliers, no complaint regarding irregularities in this regard has been received.

The prevailing system of supply of small number of items by the approved manufacturers/suppliers direct to the stores is found to be satisfactory and there is no proposal to change the same.

[English]

Tapping of Energy from Wind and Waves

1724. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether some private concerns have sought permission to tap energy from wind and waves in Kerala or any other coastal States;

(b) if so, give details with reaction of the Government;

(c) whether Central, State or Private Undertakings separately or jointly, are now involved in tapping wave and wind energy;

(d) if so, give details with production capacity, allocation of funds etc; and

(e) whether any foreign country has offered expert or financial help in this matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) to (d). A total wind power capacity of 818 MW has been installed in eight States, including a capacity of 2 MW in Kerala. This comprises demonstration projects aggregating to about 50 MW, which have been jointly funded by the Centre and respective State Governments, and commercial projects aggregating to 768 MW through private investments. Proposals for commercial projects are made directly to the respective States. A joint sector company has been set up in Madhya Pradesh to establish a Wind Energy Estate for development of commercial wind power projects.

Two experimental wave power plants of aggregate capacity 205 KW have been constructed at Vizhinjam, Thiruvanthapuram in Kerala. A proposal has been made for installation of a commercial 1 MW wave power plant off the coast of Andaman and Nicobar Islands by a Swedish firm.

(e) Technical and financial assistance has been extended by the Government of Denmark to promote wind power development in India.

NCES-North Eastern States

1725. SHRI UDDHAB BARMAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the schemes/projects taken up to generate energy from non-conventional energy sources